

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, February 27, 2012, 4:30 pm, at City Hall, Council Chambers. Present at said meeting were Richard Shockley, Karen Springer, John MacDonald, Patrick Flannelly, Aimee Jacobsen and Attorney Andy Gutwein. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Brenda Lorenz, Dan Dunten and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Present from the City was Council member Ann Hunt. Absent from the meeting were Council members Gerald Thomas, Gerry Keen and staff member, Lee Booth.

Richard convened the Board at 4:31pm.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the January 23, 2012 meeting. Karen motioned to approve the minutes. Aimee seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Summary Report for last year was included in the agenda packet
- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing

Assistant Superintendent – Pennie reported on the following:

- Softball registration has started for the Men and Coed Leagues. League play will start the week of May 7. The league fees were increased this year – the Coed fee is \$375.00 and the Men's fee is \$600.00.
- I have applied for three grants from the Gannet, Duke and Vectren Foundations for Global Fest. We are still in need of a new chairperson for the volunteers. Ann Brandyberry is no longer interested. I would like to thank her for her three years of service to the committee. Karen Springer, Dot Wankat, Linda Eales and Tanny Dawson-Snyder were recognized as "Heroes Among Us" at the City Summit/Council meeting on February 6. All are members of the Global Fest committee.
- Our department received approximately \$75,000.00 in Community Development Block Grant funds. Pending Council approval on Monday, the funds will be used to make ADA accessible improvements at Morton Community Center and the Municipal Pool.
- Quotes are scheduled to be opened tomorrow at the Board of Works meeting for the two lifts at the pool. ADA Consultants of Indiana will soon be finishing their ADA Compliance Evaluation for the pool.

Parks – Pennie reported for Lee on the following:

- Trail and Playground Inspections presented
- Started rebuilding the fan coil units at Morton Center
- Continue with clean up around the maintenance barn
- Helped with getting things ready to install the lights along Wabash Heritage Trail
- Preparing equipment for the summer

Recreation Report – Chris reported on the following:

Riverside Skating Center Update:

- The center's annual Dare to Bear was held Friday, February 3 from 7-8:30pm. Ninety-three skaters in their swimsuits enjoyed warmer than normal 45° weather. Papa John's in Purdue West provided free pizza for the skaters.
- The warm weather has made ice-skating difficult. Rink revenue is down approximately \$5,000.00 as of Sunday.

- The Skating Center is scheduled to remain open through the first weekend in March. The last day to skate, weather permitting, will be Sunday, March 4.
- The second & third grade basketball program was completed Saturday, February 18. Greg Tudor coached fifty-six second graders and forty-four third graders in the basketball program. Cumberland Principal, Kim Bowers, and her staff were helpful accommodating this four-month program.
- Plans are being made for the spring Non-Contact Football Clinic. Coaches Shane Fry & Rick Roseman will coordinate this clinic for grades 3-8. The two-week clinic will be held on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays beginning March 21. The tentative location is the old Burtfield School site.

Morton Center – Brenda reported on the following:

- WALLA held another successful Pizza Party at Morton on Thursday, February 16. There were 164 participants.
- Morton has ordered a new color printer for the office. The current one is over nine years old and the auxiliary tray is broken on it.
- I attended the event at the library on February 8 about memories of Morton School. They were collecting pictures and stories from past students at the school. Susan Curtis, who is one of the Purdue professors working with her students to archive records for West Lafayette was very pleased with the turn out. We also had several of her students stop by Morton to gather scrapbooks and files about Global Fest. They are looking at ways to include that information in an archive.
- Instructors have submitted their summer proposals. I am working with those and getting them on our calendar.

Joe provided a couple of informational items to the Park Board. After receiving quotes, a new six-foot mower has been ordered to replace our oldest mower in a four-year rotation. We will be opening quotes tomorrow for two new pickup trucks, or possibly more, depending on how we do on trade-ins for the four that are not in very good shape.

Stewardship Manager – Dan reported on the following:

- The webcam has been installed. However, a new switch, which had been on backorder, is in now, so it is a matter of connecting it to electricity. We expect to have it up and running in a couple of weeks.
- We received a \$2,000.00 grant from the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation and Indiana Department of Environmental Management for plant material for Happy Hollow Park to help control some of the erosion problems. We have a list of the plants that we plan to order. We will be removing a large amount of the bush honeysuckle and removing the burning bush, which tends to be invasive and is spreading throughout the woods. We will replace those items with all native plants.
- Noted we have had a couple of controlled burns since the last meeting. We burned two acres at the Celery Bog Nature Area. John MacDonald attended the burn. We also burned a little less than a half of an acre off of Kalberer Road, between Trailhead Park and the daycare center. We waited until all of the children were picked up from the daycare center, not taking any chances of startling anyone.

Joe also noted we have a Maintenance Technician II position available. If anyone knows of someone, have him or her stop in to fill out an application this week.

Old Business**Lafayette Bike Polo**

Joe introduced Kevin White, a representative of Lafayette Bike Polo, attending the meeting to make a request for his organization. Kevin provided some background information for past tournaments held at Riverside Skating Center. The group is requesting use of Riverside Skating Center on Saturday, March 24. This year the group would also like to request use of the facility on Sunday, March 25 for a pick-up event. The group is requesting use of the facility at a flat fee of \$100.00, the amount paid last year for one day. Discussion followed regarding our staff's involvement in opening, closing and cleaning the facility.

Pat motioned to approve the request for use of the facility for a fee of \$100.00 per day of use. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Greater Lafayette Recreational Soccer Alliance

Pennie presented the annual Cumberland Park Use Agreement for GLRSA Spring Soccer program. The group is requesting use of the fields at Cumberland Park from March 10 through October 25. The group has provided us with a Certificate of Liability effective from February 1, 2012 to February 1, 2013.

New Business**Marching for Mutts Proposal**

Almost Home Humane Society is requesting use of Tapawingo Park, with the rental fee waived, on Sunday, October 7, 2012 from 10 am until 5:00 pm for a Dog Walk and Fall Festival for local animal lovers. AHHS would like to promote the event with flyers, brochures and t-shirts to be included on their website. They mentioned that if they have extra t-shirts, they would like to sell those at the event. Discussion followed. Pat motioned to approve the request, noting we will need a completed Use Agreement for the facility. Aimee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mind BOGgling Event Art Auction

Dan presented background information regarding the first Mind BOGgling Event held at Celery Bog Nature Area in 2010, put on by the Friends of Celery Bog, noting the event was not held in 2011 due to the bridge construction. The event was well attended and considered a great success. The event involves multiple educational opportunities for the entire family, focusing on nature and the location where the event takes place. Included in the event, is an artist painting nature scenes relating to the songs sung during the evening activities. The planning committee for this year is requesting the sale of these 4-6 paintings, through a low-pressure auction, which would allow the small amount of money made to be used towards the support of this and future events, as well as the Nature Area. Monies raised could be used towards printing costs for the various activities, promotional material, paper products for refreshments and supplies for the youth educational activities. Dan noted he is continuing to work on obtaining capacity information for Lilly Nature Center from the Fire Department. Aimee motioned to approve the request, with the condition that excess funds be given to the West Lafayette Parks & Recreation department to be deposited into the Celery Bog Fund. Pat seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported the following:

- The office areas at both Cumberland and Happy Hollow are going to be renovated & expanded to make the entrances more secure & to provide better allocation of space for the Principal, secretaries, nurses and guidance counselors.
- For a second year, the School Board will be presenting a session at the National School Board Association's National Meeting. This year NSBA will be in Boston in April. A piece of the presentation will be our new redesigned website. Parts will be ready for the April presentation with a full unveiling later in the spring or early summer.

Wabash River

Joe reported the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 15.

Other

Ann Hunt added the eagles near the pond by Williamsburg Apartments have been wonderful to watch, noting there are several pictures on the City's Facebook page of the trails and the eagles. Dan also reported seeing three eagles fly by his window at Lilly Nature Center.

Aimee offered some concern about making sure any of the hardware being removed from Morton, to accommodate the ADA findings, try to be salvaged, and a second opinion be obtained, if necessary. Discussion followed.

Joe noted the Indian Women's Association contacted him today, looking for a park to host an event for approximately 200 people. The event is a traditional Indian event called Holi, which uses squirt guns filled with water-soluble dye. Joe believes they will attend next month's meeting to discuss.

Pay Claims

Pat motioned for claims to be paid. Karen seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Adjourn

Aimee motioned to adjourn the meeting. Pat seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 5:13pm.

Presiding Officer

Secretary